

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S99–S149

Measures Introduced: Twelve bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3170–3181, S.J. Res. 65–68, S. Res. 466–467, and S. Con. Res. 33.

Pages S124–25

Measures Reported:

Report to accompany S. 876, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a program to prepare veterans for careers in the energy industry, including the solar, wind, cybersecurity, and other low-carbon emissions sectors or zero-emissions sectors of the energy industry. (S. Rept. No. 116–201)

Report to accompany S. 2668, to establish a program for research, development, and demonstration of solar energy technologies. (S. Rept. No. 116–202)

Report to accompany S. 2368, to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to support licensing and relicensing of certain nuclear facilities and nuclear energy research, demonstration, and development. (S. Rept. No. 116–203)

Page S124

Measures Passed:

United States Public Health Service Modernization Act: Senate passed S. 2629, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Public Health Service Corps, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

Page S147

Congressman Lester Wolff Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge: Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 263, to rename the Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge as the Congressman Lester Wolff Oyster Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and the bill was then passed.

Pages S147–48

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed S.J. Res. 65, providing for the reappointment of John Fahey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Page S148

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed S.J. Res. 66, providing for the appointment of Denise O’Leary as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Page S148

Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents: Senate passed S.J. Res. 67, providing for the reappointment of Risa Lavizzo-Mourey as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Page S148

America’s Conservation Enhancement Act: Senate passed H.R. 925, to improve protections for wildlife, after agreeing to the following amendments proposed thereto:

Page S148

McConnell (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 1276, in the nature of a substitute.

Page S148

McConnell (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 1277, to amend the title.

Page S148

Save Our Seas 2.0 Act: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. 1982, to improve efforts to combat marine debris, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto:

Pages S148–49

McConnell (for Sullivan) Amendment No. 1278, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S148–49

Gaynor Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Pages S115–19

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, January 9, 2020, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2020.

Pages S115–16

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session.

Page S115

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination.

Page S115

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3 p.m., on Monday, January 13, 2020, Senate resume consideration of the nomination; and that the motion to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, January 9, 2020, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, January 13, 2020.

Page S149

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 10), Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

Pages S100–15

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. EX. 9), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

Pages S103–04

Cynthia L. Attwood, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2025.

Amanda Wood Laihow, of Maine, to be a Member of Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for the remainder of a term expiring April 27, 2023.

Crosby Kemper III, of Missouri, to be Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services for a term of four years.

Page S119

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Fernando L. Aenlle-Rocha, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Stanley Blumenfeld, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Grace Karaffa Obermann, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Mark C. Scarsi, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Stephen Sidney Schwartz, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Scott J. Laurer, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims for the term of fifteen years.

J. David Patterson, of Tennessee, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

109 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

11 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, and Marine Corps.

Messages from the House: **Pages S123–24**

Measures Referred: **Page S124**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S124**

Executive Communications: **Page S124**

Petitions and Memorials: **Page S124**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S124–27**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Page S127**

Additional Statements: **Pages S123–29**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S129**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S147**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—10) **Pages S104, S115**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:36 p.m., until 3 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2020. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S149.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 11 public bills, H.R. 5563–5573; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 782–787, were introduced.

Page H148

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H149–50**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 1230, to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify

appropriate standards for Federal employment discrimination and retaliation claims, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 116–372).

Page H148

Recess: The House recessed at 11:01 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon.

Page H73

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote.

Pages H73–74, H92

Directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 83, directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to terminate the use of United States Armed Forces to engage in hostilities in or against Iran, by a yea-and-nay vote of 224 yeas to 194 nays, Roll No. 7.

Pages H92–H116

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment printed in H. Rept. 116–371 shall be considered as adopted.

Page H92

H. Res. 781, the rule providing for consideration of the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 83) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 6, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 227 yeas to 191 nays, Roll No. 5.

Pages H78–92

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Wednesday, January 8th.

Prison to Proprietorship Act: H.R. 5078, amended, to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for incarcerated individuals, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 370 yeas to 41 nays, Roll No. 8.

Page H116

PFAS Action Act: The House considered H.R. 535, to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, January 10th.

Pages H116–42

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–45, modified by the amendment printed in part A of H. Rept. 116–366, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Energy and Commerce now printed in the bill.

Page H125

Agreed to:

Woodall amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that amends Section 18 to ensure the FAA and State and local building code inspectors and fire marshals are at the guidance-making table;

Pages H127–28

Hudson amendment (No. 4 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that directs the EPA to investigate methods to prevent contamination by GenX of surface waters, including source waters used for drinking water purposes;

Pages H129–30

Hudson amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that clarifies that communities impacted by contamination of the chemical GenX are eligible for grants under this section;

Pages H130–31

Delgado amendment (No. 7 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that makes it illegal for an industrial facility to introduce PFAS into a sewage treatment system without first disclosing information about that substance;

Pages H132–33

Pingree amendment (No. 8 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that expands EPA's Safer Choice Program to include carpets, rugs, clothing, and upholstered furniture that do not contain PFAS;

Pages H133–34

Kildee amendment (No. 9 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that creates a tool on EPA's website to help people understand testing results for their well water and connect them to local health and government resources and authorizes \$1 million to be appropriated for fiscal year 2021 to carry this out;

Pages H134–35

Tonko amendment (No. 10 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that requires the EPA to make publicly available on its website, the results of a determination under subsection 2(b) no later than 60 days after such determination is made;

Pages H135–36

Rice (NY) amendment (No. 11 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that increases authorization of appropriations for the PFAS Infrastructure Grant Program by 25 percent and designates the increase for reimbursing affected community water systems that have previously implemented eligible treatment technologies;

Page H136

Brown (MD) amendment (No. 12 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a national risk-communication strategy to inform the public about the hazards of PFAS substances;

Pages H136–37

Plaskett amendment (No. 14 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that makes U.S. territories eligible for additional Safe Drinking Water Act funding to address emerging contaminants including PFAS;

Page H139

Brindisi amendment (No. 15 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that requires the EPA, within 180 days, to issue a final rule listing PFOS and PFOA as hazardous air pollutants under the Clean Air Act, while ensuring that EPA has access to the needed science before making regulatory decisions on other PFAS chemicals, to harmonize with other Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act provisions in the bill;

Pages H139–40

Brindisi amendment (No. 16 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that requires the EPA Administrator to offer for public comment those technologies deemed as effective at removing detectable amounts of PFAS from drinking water;

Pages H140–41

Golden amendment (No. 17 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that directs the EPA Administrator, in consultation with the U.S. Fire Administration, to submit an annual report to Congress on the effectiveness of the guidance required under Section 18 of the bill; and

Page H141

Axne amendment (No. 18 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366), as modified, that authorizes the PFAS Infrastructure Grant Program for an additional three years.

Pages H141–42

Proceedings Postponed:

Burgess amendment (No. 2 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that seeks to strike Section 2, which directs the EPA to designate PFAS as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act;

Pages H128–29

Balderson amendment (No. 6 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that seeks to prevent implementation of the underlying bill until after the EPA Administrator certifies that its own PFAS Action Plan is completed; and

Pages H131–32

Pappas amendment (No. 13 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–366) that seeks to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to review and develop effluent standards, pretreatment standards, and water quality criteria for PFAS under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

Pages H137–39

H. Res. 779, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 535) was agreed to yesterday, January 8th.

Consensus Calendar: Representative Stivers presented to the clerk a motion to place on the Consensus Calendar the bill H.R. 4305, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program on dog training therapy, it having accumulated 290 cosponsors.

Page H148

Senate Referrals: S. 1228 was held at the desk. S. 1611 was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Page H146

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H78.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H91, H91–92, H115–16, and H116. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a markup on H.R. 2906, the “Clean Commute for Kids Act of 2019”; H.R. 3361, the “Reliable Investment in Vital Energy Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 3079, the “Energy Savings Through Public-Private Partnerships Act of 2019”; H.R. 5518, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a Clean Cities Coalition Program, and for other purposes; H.R. 5542, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program for States to provide incentives to natural gas distribution systems; H.R. 5541, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 1992 to reauthorize programs to assist consenting Indian tribes in meeting energy education, planning, and management needs, and for other purposes; H.R. 5527, the “21st Century Power Grid Act”; H.R. 1426, the “Timely Review of Infrastructure Act”; and H.R. 5545, the “NO EX-HAUST Act of 2020”. H.R. 2906, H.R. 3361, H.R. 3079, H.R. 5518, H.R. 5542, H.R. 5541, H.R. 5527, H.R. 1426, and H.R. 5545 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF DHS PREPAREDNESS GRANTS: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE FIELD

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery held a hearing entitled “Understanding the Importance of DHS Preparedness Grants: Perspectives from the Field”. Testimony was heard from W. Greg Kierce, Director, Jersey City Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, New Jersey; Michael A. Sprayberry, Director, North Carolina Emergency Management, North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency; John J. Miller, Deputy Commissioner, Intelligence and Counterterrorism, New York City Police Department; and a public witness.

2020 ELECTION SECURITY-PERSPECTIVES FROM VOTING SYSTEM VENDORS AND EXPERTS

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “2020 Election Security-Perspectives from Voting System Vendors and Experts”. Testimony was heard from Mike Gianasi, County Clerk and Recorder, Christian County, Taylorville, Illinois; Donald Palmer, Commissioner, Election Assistance Commission, Silver Spring, Maryland; and public witnesses.

REACHING HARD-TO-COUNT COMMUNITIES IN THE 2020 CENSUS

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Reaching Hard-to-Count Communities in the 2020 Census”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5260, the “Promoting Research and Observations of Space Weather to Improve the Forecasting of Tomorrow Act”. H.R. 5260 was ordered reported, as amended.

FARMING IN THE 21ST CENTURY: THE IMPACTS OF AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY IN RURAL AMERICA

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Innovation and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “Farming in the 21st Century: The Impacts of Agriculture Technology in Rural America”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PROPOSALS FOR A WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2020

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2020”. Testimony was heard from Rickey Dale James, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army—Civil Works; and Lieutenant

General Todd T. Semonite, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

REVIEWING THE AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES TO ADDRESS VETERAN HUNGER

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled “Reviewing the Availability of Resources to Address Veteran Hunger”. Testimony was heard from Thomas O'Toole, Senior Medical Advisor, Providence VA Medical Center, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Christine Going, Co-Chairperson, Veterans Health Affairs Ensuring Veterans Food Security Workgroup, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Pamilyn Miller, Administrator, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D10)

H.R. 1424, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure the Secretary of Veterans Affairs permits the display of Fallen Soldier Displays in national cemeteries. Signed on January 7, 2020. (Public Law 116–106)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2020

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

3 p.m., Monday, January 13

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Peter Gaynor, of Rhode Island, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 5:30 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, January 10

House Chamber

Program for Friday: Complete consideration of H.R. 535—PFAS Action Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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